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CIA Briefs Reagan, Bush

MIDDLEBURG, Va., Oct. 4 (UPI) — Ronald Reagan and his running mate, George Bush, got their first CIA briefing today, which focused on the Iran-Iraq war. Bush said he would not use the information to criticize President Carter.

Reagan did not comment on the session, which was lead by CIA Director Stansfield Turner.

But Bush, who was head of the CIA under President Ford, spoke with reporters afterward.

"There's plenty of room for criticism on foreign policy and I will continue to be a strong critic," he said. "But please, this was not the purpose of this meeting just to get information so we could go charging out to launch an attack."

He said policy matters were not discussed.

"We simply received from them, in the best tradition of the intelligence service, thorough intelligence briefings," he said. "So it's been a good morning and I feel much better informed about the world. I can't tell you I feel more optimistic about it."

Bush said the meeting emphasized Iran, including its war with Iraq, and touched on Afghanistan as well.

He said he did not expect to reap

any political benefits from the session and vowed that no security leaks would come from the GOP team.

"I will not be guilty of that," he said. "I know Governor Reagan will not be guilty of that."

Reagan announced last week that he would accept an intelligence briefing on the war. Before that, he had declined all such offers because, as his press secretary, Lyn Nofziger, put it: "We don't want to get mouse-trapped by the administration."

Nofziger said Reagan might find himself forced into silence about something discussed in a briefing when he could have gotten the information elsewhere and used it.

But Reagan said he decided he needed briefings on the Iran-Iraq war "because of the current delicate world situation and the threat to worldwide peace and stability the conflict poses."

He said he was "determined to do and say nothing to exacerbate the situation or hurt in any way our effort to bring about a satisfactory ending to the fighting."

Earlier today, Reagan met with former secretary of state Henry A. Kissinger, former NATO chief Alexander M. Haig and retired Adm. Thomas Moorer, plus his own foreign policy advisers.